Frida Cano 229 Broad St. Meriden, CT

I am asking permission to give a testimony on March 4, 2013.

I have spent most of my childhood in the city of Meriden, CT. I have had a lot of hard times like many children, but unlike most my suffering was because my parents did not have a driver's license. Growing up consists of many fun things like joining a sport, going to your friend's birthday parties, or just going out for a good time. I was not able to do many of those things because I did not have the transportation to do so. One memory that I will never forget was when I was in elementary school. There had recently been a big snow storm and there were still piles of snow throughout the streets. I saw that my mom was going out grocery shopping, so I tagged along. We did not have the luxury of just walking out of the house and heading to the store in a car because my mom did not have her license. We had to walk all the way to the store and back. It was one of the worst experiences I have gone through, but unfortunately that was not the only one. Every time we wanted to go out we had to call someone to ask for a ride. We were very dependent on people. All I wondered as a child was why the world was so unfair? Why was I the one that had to suffer though all this, had I done something wrong? When my mom saw that we had suffered too much she bought a car. She started to drive but of course there was the fear of being stopped for not having a license. A lot of time has gone by, I am now 16 years old but I still live with that limitation. I would hate for other kids to go through the same things I went through. Childhood years are things that only happen once, but it is hard to enjoy them when your parents do not have a driver's license.

Thank you for your time, Frida Cano